

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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AGUILERA NAMED VICE-PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL HISPANIC GROUP

INDIANAPOLIS – State Rep. John Aguilera (D-East Chicago) has been named Vice President for Membership of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL), the largest organization of lawmakers devoted to advocacy on behalf of Hispanic communities across the United States.

Aguilera was named to the post by NHCSL President, State Assemblyman Felix Ortiz of New York, during the organization's third national summit in Tampa, Fla., earlier this month. In his new post, Aguilera serves as the second-in-command for a group that represents more than 300 Hispanic state legislators from the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

"One of the great pleasures of my service as an Indiana state lawmaker is the access it provides to Hispanic legislators across this country," Aguilera said. "Through groups like the NHCSL, we have the chance to share common concerns and work together to find solutions that can bring great benefits to thousands of Hispanic Americans."

In addition to serving as a catalyst for joint action on issues of common concern to all segments of the Hispanic community, the NHCSL provides a forum for information exchange and acts as a liaison with sister organizations throughout the country, a promoter of public/private partnerships with business and labor, and a partner with legislators representing Central and South America.

"This group provides technical assistance and resources that will help elected officials propose legislation and administrative actions that can help Hispanics achieve a better quality of life," Aguilera said. "We focus on a variety of areas: education, health care, housing, economic development, criminal justice and employment and job training."

In his new post, Aguilera will play a key role in advocating the appointment of Hispanics to positions of influence in all levels and branches of government.

"In the year to come, the NHCSL will be spending a good deal of time on issues affecting education and health disparities," Aguilera said. "We want to do what we can to advance initiatives that help Hispanics achieve educational excellence, and that reduce mortality rates for Hispanics of all ages. It is gratifying to be a part of an organization that can impact the lives of so many people."

Prior to his selection as vice president, Aguilera served as secretary-treasurer for NHCSL.

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This news release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H12